IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In Re U.S. Patent Application |) I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: |
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| Applicant: Takeuchi et al. Serial No. Filed: February 12, 2004 | Sauce From Serve to EAF ACT TON. Commissioner for Patients, E.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22331-1450, on this dute. February 12, 2004 Express Bail Label No.: EV 032731576 US |
| For: INTERFACE APPARATUS AND PACKET TRANSFER METHOD |))) |
| Art Unit: |) |
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R.§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

February 12, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Patrick G. Burns

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Patrick G. Burns

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Sheet 1 of 1

| Form PTO (Rev. 8-8 | | | Attorney Docket No.: 1990.69695 Serial No.: | | | | | | |
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| INFORM | ATION DISCLOSURE CITA | TION | | Applicant: Tal | ceuchi et al. | | | | |
| (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | Filing Date: February 12, 2004 | | | Group: | | |
| U.S. PAT | ENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
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